



# MONTANA LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EXHIBIT 9

## Legislative Fiscal Division

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Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
CLAYTON SCHENCK

DATE: July 17, 2007

TO: Agency Directors

FROM: Clayton Schenck, Legislative Fiscal Analyst

RE: Goals and Objectives

This memo is to let you know of a new procedure the Legislative Finance Committee is implementing for the state budget process. As you are aware, the legislature is responsible for determining and articulating what state government is and should be, and for providing the resources necessary for implementation. Consequently, it is also part of the legislature's role to continually monitor and reassess its priorities, vision, and resources. The budgeting process is the most important tool the legislature has in this process. As part of the review process, the 2007 Legislature approved inclusion of several expanded justifications as part of the decision package narrative outlining legislative intent in the Legislative Fiscal Analysis. They also required goals and measurable objectives as part of the budgetary information provided to the Joint Appropriation Subcommittees.

The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) continues to recognize its oversight role during the interim as it relates to monitoring and reassessing priorities and resources by reviewing agency progress. In the June 18, 2007 meeting, the LFC decided to appoint work groups to monitor state agency program progress towards meeting objectives presented to the legislature in the agency templates and in the expanded justification forms presented in decision packages approved by the legislature.

In the next few weeks, legislative fiscal analysts will select a few key goals for each program from those presented in the agency templates. Analysts will be meeting with key program staff and Office of Budget and Program Planning analysts as part of this selection process. For selected goals and the expanded justifications, state agency program staff will then complete a two page performance management report. This tool was developed and tested by the LFC during the 2005 interim period. The performance management reports will then be submitted to the legislative fiscal analysts for review and "score card" evaluation ranging from good to critical.

The scores of each program will then be summarized and presented to the legislators selected for each work group. We have scheduled meeting rooms during the LFC meeting in October for agency input and discussion of concerns with their assigned legislators.

Finalized scorecards will then be discussed with the LFC as a whole and presented to the various legislative interim committees assigned with specific agency oversight. Additional program goals or specific decision packages may be added throughout this process depending on legislative direction.

For additional information regarding this project, please contact Barbara Smith at 444-5347 or Kris Wilkinson at 444-5834.